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ABSTRACT

A study examined state-administered vocational education program improvement projects funded in fiscal year (FY) 1985 under subpart 3, sections 131 (research), 132 (exemplary and innovative), and 133 (curriculum development) of the Education Amendments of 1976 (P.L. 94-482). It was determined that more funds are being obligated for supportive services than for program improvement and that the percentage of funds allocated for research, exemplary and innovative, and curriculum development projects has continued to decrease. Collectively, the States are obligating more than 51 percent of their program improvement funding to curriculum development. The amount obligated for each project varied considerably, with the actual range extending from $1,491 to $875,262. In FY 1985 State program improvement projects were being conducted by educational agencies and institutions at every level. Teachers and coordinators were the primary users of 58 percent of the products and services yielded by the projects. State program improvement projects have focused on every educational level, with the greatest number addressing improvement of instruction. (Appendixes to this report include a list of FY 1985 state-administered program improvement projects for legislative section 135, a Resources in Vocational Education database project profile, a list of FY 1985 state-administered program improvement projects by State and legislative section and a short list of related documents.) (MN)

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SUMMARY OF STATE-ADMINISTERED PROGRAM IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS IN FY 1985

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF EDUCATION
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FOREWORD

Provisions were made in the Education Amendments of 1976 (P.L. 94-482) for state-administered program improvement projects. During the 1985 fiscal year, 518 research, exemplary and innovative, and curriculum development projects were conducted under this legislative provision. Information about these projects is reported with respect to location, funding levels, funding recipients, target population, educational levels, outcomes, and priorities addressed. This summary report, supplemented by specific searches of the vocational education program improvement (RIVE) database, will be helpful to legislators, Federal program administrators, and State agency personnel by providing answers to questions such as the following:

- o How many projects were conducted and how much money was obligated?
- o How do States compare in the numbers and kinds of projects conducted and the amount of funds obligated?
- o Are projects addressing critical problems and issues?
- o What is the relative emphasis on target audiences and problem areas?
- o What kinds of agencies and organizations are conducting the vocational education R&D?

We are pleased to disseminate this summary of state-administered program improvement projects so that it may be used for program planning and policy development. The funds for this effort were provided by the Office of Vocational and Adult Education, U.S. Department of Education.

We wish to thank the staff members of the State research coordinating units for their cooperation in submitting project descriptions. The summary was prepared in the Information Systems Division of the National Center under the direction of Juliet V. Miller. Wesley E. Budke, Director of the National Center Clearinghouse, coordinated the preparation of this summary. Dr. Budke holds a Ph.D. in agricultural education from The Ohio State University and has been involved in vocational education information systems development and educational product dissemination work at the National Center since 1970. Special recognition is given to project staff members Wallis Harsch and Tal Burkhart for their help in retrieving and preparing the data. Janet Ray provided word processing assistance, and final editing of the document was provided by Janet Kiplinger of the National Center's Editorial Services.

The contribution of all of these individuals to the preparation of this publication is appreciated.

Robert E. Taylor
Executive Director
The National Center for Research
in Vocational Education

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This is a summary report of state-administered vocational education program improvement projects funded in FY 1985 under subpart 3, sections 131 (research), 132 (exemplary and innovative), and 133 (curriculum development) of the Education Amendments of 1976 (P.L. 94-482). The report provides summary data about the projects conducted in the States and their foci. Information is provided about where the projects were conducted, by whom, for what purpose, and with what results. Five hundred and eighteen (518) projects funded for $14,486,473 are summarized.

The following are conclusions about the state-administered program improvement activities drawn from the data reported.

- o More funds are being obligated for support services than for program improvement. State program improvement projects funded under sections 131, 132, and 133 represent $14,486,473 or 14.5 percent of the total amount allocated to the States for program improvement and support services. It is surmised that the remaining 85.5 percent is being obligated for the support services specified in sections 134, 135, and 136, and possibly for the administration of the State research coordinating units when this is not reported as a project. States vary in the proportion of funds that they devoted to program improvement.

- o The FY 1985 percentage of funds allocated for research, exemplary and innovative, and curriculum development projects has continued to decrease. The total Federal allocation for subpart 3 remained the same, but the State allocations to sections 131, 132, and 133 decreased by over $1.9 million from FY 1984.

- o Collectively, the States are obligating more than 51 percent of their program improvement funding to curriculum development. Individual States, however, vary considerably in this respect; some do not fund any projects in certain categories.

- o The amount obligated for each project varies considerably. There is a wide range in project size within and among States. The average funding per project is $27,966. The actual range is from $1,491 to $875,262.

- o State program improvement projects are being conducted by educational agencies and institutions at every level. The largest share of the work is being conducted by 4-year colleges and universities (57 percent) and local educational agencies (21 percent).

- Teachers and coordinators are the primary users of 58 percent of the products and services yielded by the projects. An additional 18 percent of the projects were directed toward local and State administrators and supervisors.

- State program improvement projects have focused on every educational level. Nearly 70 percent of the State program improvement obligations have been at secondary and combined high school and postsecondary levels.

- The greatest number of projects have focused directly on improvement of instruction (i.e., curriculum and instruction projects, 162; training programs and inservice education, 64; evaluation, assessment, and follow-up, 57).

INTRODUCTION

The Vocational Education Act of 1963 (P.L. 88-210) was the landmark legislation for vocational education program improvement because it contained broad provisions for research and training, as well as experimental and demonstration or pilot programs. Funding authorized under the legislation was appropriated by Congress and allocated by the Commissioner of Education for institutional capacity building and for such priorities as program evaluation, resource development, vocational guidance and career choice, organization and administration, and new careers. The subsequent Vocational Education Act of 1968 (P.L. 90-576) authorized support of grants for research, training, exemplary programs, and curriculum development. A part of the research and exemplary programs was to be administered at the State level.

The Education Amendments of 1976 (P.L. 94-482) responded to many of the concerns raised by the Committee for Vocational Education Research and Development (COVERD) about vocational education research and development. These amendments provided for Programs of National Significance to be administered at the Federal level and for Program Improvement and Support Services to be administered at the State level. The act also encouraged consolidation of programs, more responsible management, and specific accountability. The Rules and Regulations for the act required that State research coordinating units submit to the National Center for Research in Vocational Education resumes of program improvement projects under section 131 (research), section 132 (exemplary and innovative), and section 133 (curriculum development) when contracted, and reports and products resulting from each project within 90 days of its completion. The National Center, through its National Center Clearinghouse, maintains a computerized database (RIVE) of state-administered program improvement project descriptions, available through BRS Information Technologies, Latham, New York. The National Center Clearinghouse also maintains the information in its files for review and analysis.

Project Categories

Projects included in this report were funded during FY 1985 under sections 131, 132, and 133 of the Education Amendments of 1976. Projects were intended to emphasize improvement of planning in using resources available for vocational education and human resources training; extending, improving, and, where necessary, maintaining existing programs; developing new programs; overcoming sex discrimination and sex stereotyping; and providing part-time employment for needy youths. The three legislative sections are described next:

Section 131: Research

Funds may be used to support State research coordinating units and for contracts for program improvement involving (1) applied research and development projects; (2) experimental, developmental, and pilot programs designed to test the effectiveness of research findings, including programs to overcome problems of sex bias and sex stereotyping; (3) improved curriculum materials for current programs and new materials for new and emerging job fields; (4) development of new careers and occupations in fields such as mental and physical health, crime prevention and correction, welfare, education, municipal services, child care, and recreation; (5) training and development projects designed to demonstrate improved methods of obtaining the cooperation of both public and private sectors to coordinate and implement programs for employing persons in the fields described here; (6) evaluating programs relating to training and using public service aides; and (7) disseminating contract results locally. Contracts must result in improved teaching techniques or curriculum materials that will be used in a substantial number of classrooms or other learning situations within 5 years after contract termination.

Section 132: Exemplary and Innovative

Funds may be used for contracts to support exemplary and innovative programs, including (1) developing high-quality vocational education programs for urban centers with maximum concentrations of economically disadvantaged, unskilled workers, and unemployed individuals; (2) developing training opportunities for persons in sparsely populated rural areas and individuals migrating from farms to urban areas; (3) providing effective vocational education for individuals with limited English-speaking ability; (4) establishing cooperative arrangements between public education and employment and training agencies designed to correlate vocational education opportunities with current and projected labor market needs; (5) broadening occupational aspirations and opportunities for youth (with special emphasis given to youth who have academic, socioeconomic, or other handicaps), including programs and projects designed to familiarize elementary and secondary students with a broad range of occupations for which special skills are required and the requisites for careers in such occupations; and (6) facilitating participation of employers and labor organizations in postsecondary education.

Other provisions of section 132 give priority to programs designed to reduce sex stereotyping in vocational education and provide for participation of students enrolled in nonprofit private schools. Annual program plans and accountability reports covering the final year of financial support by the State for these programs must indicate what will happen to the programs after Federal support is discontinued and how promising programs will be continued and expanded within the State.

Section 133: Curriculum Development

Funds may be used for contracts in support of curriculum development projects, including developing and disseminating vocational education curriculum materials for new and changing occupational fields and for individuals with special needs. Funds may be used also for contracts to develop guidance, curriculum, and testing materials and for support services designed to overcome sex bias and enable teachers to meet the needs of individuals enrolled in vocational education programs traditionally limited to one sex. Contracts must result in improved teaching techniques or curriculum materials that will be used in a substantial number of classrooms or other learning situations within 5 years after contract termination.

Several projects funded under section 135 (personnel training) have been submitted voluntarily by the States and are tallied in appendix A of this report.

Organization of the Report

This report is the seventh summary of the RIVE database. The first reported on FY 1978 and FY 1979 projects and is available through the ERIC system as ED 194 768. The second summary reported on FY 1980 projects and is available from ERIC as ED 198 263. The third summary, covering FY 1981 projects, is available from ERIC as ED 215 147. The fourth report is a 5-year summary for FY 1978 - FY 1982 and is available from ERIC as ED 227 311. The fifth summary, covering FY 1983 projects, is available from ERIC as ED 239 092. The sixth summary, covering FY 1984 projects, is available from ERIC as ED 254 639. These reports provide summary data about projects conducted in the States and their foci. They provide information about where projects were conducted, by whom, for what purpose, and with what results. This report does not deal with qualitative and programmatic dimensions of state-administered program improvement projects, nor with impact. These dimensions need further investigation that can be facilitated by the database. The work by Hull (1983) has made extensive use of this database in examining product distribution, use, and impact in vocational education.

A SUMMARY OF STATE-ADMINISTERED PROJECTS IN FY 1985

Methodology

The database of state-administered program improvement projects (RIVE) is managed by the National Center Clearinghouse staff (see appendix B). Staff review and analyze project resumes provided by State research coordinating units to identify, clarify, and compile project data. This requires the following operational sequence:

1. Clearinghouse staff review each resume for complete bibliographic and funding information. Missing information is requested from the State.

2. They compile a list of projects received from each State and request verification from the State research coordinating unit director.

3. They edit and index project abstracts according to ERIC format.

4. They code and process key variables for the computer file (i.e., organization type, target population, education level, outcomes, and priorities).

5. They sort and tabulate data by computer searching the program improvement database maintained by BRS Information Technologies.

6. They create table displays of aggregate data (see findings section of this report).

Findings

The findings reported in this section are based upon data drawn from program improvement project resumes provided by State research coordinating units. A computer search of the Resources in Vocational Education (RIVE) database was conducted through the BRS Information Technologies, Latham, New York. The number of contracts and the amounts of obligated funds for state-administered program improvement projects were retrieved and summarized by categories:

- o Program improvement projects by State
- o Program improvement projects by legislative section
- o Contract recipients of project funding
- o Primary users of State program improvement projects
- o Instructional level addressed by projects
- o Products or outcomes of projects
- o Priorities addressed by projects

Within each category, projects were assigned to a single classification, even though they may have application to more than one area.

The information reported about state-administered program improvement projects in the RIVE database is influenced by the following factors:

- o The information was taken from the funded proposals but does not reflect subsequent spendout of funds and scope adjustments throughout the life of the project.

- o State departments of vocational education are allowed to carry over funds to the following year, thus allowing some program improvement activity on a continuing, year-round basis.

- o The data reported in this summary reflects the program improvement information in the RIVE database as of November 1, 1985.

- o The program improvement activities reported represent only those receiving Federal funds under sections 131 (research), 132 (exemplary and innovative), and 133 (curriculum development) of subpart 3 of the Education Amendments of 1976.

- o The projects reported have been verified as correct by the research coordinating units.

Federal Allocations to State Program Improvement

State allocation of program improvement funds to sections 131 (research), 132 (exemplary and innovative), and 133 (curriculum development) is made possible by Federal allocation to the States. Table 1 shows these Federal allocations for FY 1978 - FY 1985. Also shown are the amounts of these funds allocated by the States (collectively) for research, exemplary and innovative, and curriculum development activities.

During these 8 years, the portion of Federal allocation to sections 131-133 showed a maximum of 4.3 percent variation (FY 1983 - FY 1984), whereas total Federal allocation showed a maximum differential of nearly $32 million (FY 1981 - FY 1983). In FY 1981, States received the highest total allocation for all program improvement, but a reduced percentage of allocation for sections 131, 132, and 133. FY 1984 and FY 1985 carried the lowest total allocations. The percentage of Federal funds allocated by the States to research, exemplary and innovative, and curriculum development activities did not fluctuate significantly from FY 1978 through FY 1983, but has declined more than 6 percent from FY 1983 to FY 1985.

State Program Improvement Activity Summary

Table 2 shows the number of vocational education program improvement projects and Federal funds obligated for projects in each of the States and Territories under provisions of sections 131, 132, and 133 of P.L. 94-482 during FY 1985.

1. For FY 1985, States and Territories reported 518 program improvement projects for which $14,486,473 was obligated.

TABLE 1

FEDERAL ALLOCATIONS FOR STATE-ADMINISTERED PROGRAM IMPROVEMENT ACTIVITIES
(IN DOLLARS)

Fiscal Year	Total Federal Allocation to States for Subpart 3	State Allocation to Sections 131, 132, & 133	Percentage of Total Allocated to Sections 131, 132, & 133
1978	103,324,822	18,905,159	18.3
1979	107,667,991	20,158,728	18.7
1980	113,662,067	23,514,466	20.7
1981	126,162,326	24,629,348	19.5
1982	94,670,070	17,430,444	18.4
1983	90,937,070	18,902,365	20.8
1984	99,590,000	16,386,904	16.5
1985	99,590,000	14,486,473	14.5
TOTALS	835,604,346	154,413,887	18.5 (Ave.)

SOURCE: Office of Vocational and Adult Education, U.S. Department of Education, unpublished allotment tables.

2. The number of program improvement projects ranged from none in each of 14 States and Territories to 65 in Kentucky.

3. Obligations for program improvement ranged from none in 14 States and Territories to $2,610,313 in Texas.

Table 3 shows the distribution of projects and funds obligated across the program improvement sections (i.e., research, exemplary and innovative, and curriculum development).

1. In FY 1978 - FY 1979 the program improvement funding was almost equally divided among research, exemplary and innovative, and curriculum development activities. Since then, curriculum development activities have increasingly been allotted a larger portion of the funds. In FY 1985, curriculum development received over 51 percent of the program improvement funds reported by the States.

2. The 161 projects conducted under section 131 (research) were funded at an average of $26,187.

3. The 124 projects conducted under section 132 (exemplary and innovative) were funded at an average of $23,034.

TABLE 2

FY 1985 STATE-ADMINISTERED PROGRAM IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS
BY STATE

State or Territory	Number of Projects	Obligated Funds
Alabama	6	30,060
Alaska	1	23,523
Arizona	0	--
Arkansas	6	148,467
California	7	416,000
Colorado	5	64,909
Connecticut	12	176,822
Delaware	2	16,128
District of Columbia	0	--
Florida	52	1,014,078
Georgia	24	505,663
Guam	0	--
Hawaii	8	44,489
Idaho	0	--
Illinois	32	1,511,274
Indiana	3	50,713
Iowa	1	75,000
Kansas	8	203,248
Kentucky	65	875,611
Louisiana	10	165,746
Maine	0	--
Maryland	0	--
Massachusetts	25	858,227
Michigan	3	861,103
Minnesota	3	221,756
Mississippi	0	--
Missouri	19	471,926
Montana	12	86,493
Nebraska	1	25,000
Nevada	0	--
New Hampshire	0	--
New Jersey	0	--
New Mexico	4	235,158
New York	4	979,253
North Carolina	3	38,413

NOTE: Zero projects are reported for States indicating they did not fund any projects or did not respond to inquiries by the Clearinghouse staff.

TABLE 2--Continued

State or Territory	Number of Projects	Obligated Funds
North Dakota	5	67,536
Ohio	7	203,564
Oklahoma	6	266,500
Oregon	19	166,442
Pennsylvania	45	458,512
Puerto Rico	0	--
Rhode Island	1	2,000
South Carolina	13	25,950
South Dakota	0	--
Tennessee	14	495,956
Texas	33	2,610,313
Utah	0	--
Vermont	0	--
Virginia	10	703,610
Washington	34	164,819
West Virginia	5	26,187
Wisconsin	8	188,024
Wyoming	2	8,000
TOTALS	518	$14,486,473

TABLE 3

FY 1985 STATE-ADMINISTERED PROGRAM IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS
BY LEGISLATIVE SECTION

Legislative Section under Subpart 3, P.L. 94-482	Number of Projects	Obligated Funds
Section 131, research	161	4,216,174
Section 132, exemplary and innovative	124	2,856,219
Section 133, curriculum development	233	7,414,080
TOTALS	518	$14,486,473

4. The 233 projects conducted under section 133 (curriculum development) were funded at an average of $31,820.

5. The average funding for State projects within each of the sections (appendix C) varied considerably:

   --Research projects ranged from $1,491 to $149,000.
   --Exemplary and innovative projects ranged from $1,950 to $280,000.
   --Curriculum development projects ranged from $1,996 to $875,262.

Table 4 shows the recipients of project funding in several categories. Percentages shown are for the amounts of funds, not for projects.

- Ninety-three percent of the funding was for projects conducted by educational agencies. Four-year colleges and universities conducted 57 percent of the projects, followed by local education agencies (21 percent). Two-year colleges received 6 percent of the funds.

TABLE 4

RECIPIENTS OF PROJECT FUNDING

Institution or Agency	Number of Projects	Funding of Projects	Percentage of Funding
College or university	185	8,259,537	57.01
Local education agency	171	3,036,897	20.96
State agency	55	1,171,532	8.09
Community college, junior college, or technical institute	77	877,530	6.06
Research/development org.	12	734,112	5.07
Business, industry, or labor	6	142,042	0.29
Intermediate agency	6	111,105	0.77
Individual	1	49,522	0.34
Public sector organization*	1	42,890	0.30
Other	1	30,580	0.21
Unclassified	2	25,726	0.18
Professional association	1	5,000	0.03
TOTALS	518	$14,486,473	100.00

*Organizations, agencies, associations, or committees that do not have an educational focus but do receive public funds.

- o Noneducational agencies (i.e., research centers, private businesses, public sector organizations, and individuals) conducted projects that were supported with 7.1 percent of the funds.

Table 5 displays the number of projects whose products or outcomes were targeted to the clients of various groups and their project funding levels.

- o About 58 percent of the projects indicated that they would yield products or provide services for teachers or coordinators.
- o About 18 percent of the projects were directed toward local and State administrators and supervisors.
- o Only 1.3 percent of the projects were designed specifically to serve teacher educators.

TABLE 5

PRIMARY USERS

Institution or Agency	Number of Projects	Funding of Projects	Percentage of Funding
Teacher/coordinator	233	8,389,172	57.91
Research & development personnel	65	1,562,560	10.79
Administrator (local)	77	1,299,919	8.97
Student	57	1,287,763	8.89
Administrator/supervisor/ planner (state)	49	1,276,585	8.81
Guidance personnel	11	195,175	1.35
Teacher educator	11	189,439	1.31
Parent/community representative	6	149,970	1.04
Business, industry, or labor	5	84,264	0.58
Unclassified	2	25,726	0.18
Elected official/advisory member	1	25,000	0.17
Institutionalized persons	1	900	0.00
TOTALS	518	$14,486,473	100.00

Table 6 provides information on the number of projects and amount of funding directed toward various instructional levels or combinations of instructional levels.

- o The foci of 45.3 percent of the projects were specifically upon high schools, with an additional 36 percent on community college, junior colleges and technical institutes, or a combination of high school and postsecondary.
- o About 2 percent of the projects had outcomes or services designed specifically for the elementary and junior high school levels.

TABLE 6

INSTRUCTIONAL LEVEL

Instructional Level	Number of Projects	Amount of Funding	Percentage of Funding
High school (10-12)	220	6,562,435	45.30
High school & postsecondary (10-14)	103	3,461,162	23.89
Community/junior college or tech. inst. (13-14)	92	1,727,702	11.93
Other	32	895 314	6.18
Secondary (7-12)	8	678,649	4.68
College or university (13-16)*	33	560,009	3.86
Adult	16	257,741	1.78
Junior high school (7-9)	6	245,966	1.70
Elementary & secondary (K-12)	5	69,270	0.48
Unclassified	2	25,726	0.18
Elementary (K-6)	1	2,499	0.02
TOTALS	518	$14,486,473	100.00

*Includes inservice education.

Table 7 presents the nature of products or outcomes of the 518 vocational education program improvement projects administered by the States in FY 1985.

- o Curriculum and instructional products resulted from 162 or 40.8 percent of the projects.
- o Training programs and inservice education were the outcomes of 59 or 8.8 percent of the projects.
- o Evaluation, assessment, and follow-up studies were the outcome or product of 57 projects (7 percent).
- o Career and vocational counseling activities were the outcome of 15 projects (1.7 percent).
- o Distribution of materials and development or operation of information systems were the primary activities in 29 projects and accounted for 2 percent of the funding.

Table 8 displays the priority areas addressed by the state-administered vocational education program improvement projects funded during FY 1985.

- o The largest percentage (49.3 percent) was in the area of curriculum (i.e., management, development).
- o The curriculum, dissemination, evaluation, and administration areas account for 69.5 percent of the projects and 77.9 percent of the funding.

Summary

Several conclusions about the State program improvement activities can be drawn from the data reported in the previous section.

- o More funds are being obligated for support services than for program improvement. State program improvement projects funded under sections 131, 132, and 133 represent $14,479,473 or 14.5 percent of the total amount allocated to the States for program improvement and support services. It is surmised that the remaining 85.5 percent is being obligated for the support services specified in sections 134, 135, and 136, and possibly for the administration of the State research coordinating units when this is not reported as a project. States vary in the proportion of funds that they devoted to program improvement.
- o The FY 1985 percentage of funds allocated for research, exemplary and innovative, and curriculum development projects has decreased from FY 1984. Although the total Federal allocation for subpart 3 remained the same, the State allocations to sections 131, 132, and 133 decreased by $1.9 million from FY 1984.

TABLE 7

PRODUCTS OR OUTCOMES OF PROJECTS

Product or Outcome	Number of Projects	Amount of Funding	Percentage of Funding
Printed instructional materials	100	4,380,128	30.24
Curriculum guides	44	1,241,932	8.57
Training programs	43	1,013,491	7.00
Materials distribution	15	980,802	6.77
Research	40	786,229	5.43
Information systems	14	772,672	5.33
Program implementation	25	696,086	4.80
Articulation	18	502,461	3.47
Planning	16	500,589	3.46
Follow-up	33	453,820	3.13
Model (exemplary)	20	383,662	2.65
Handbook or guide	21	302,716	2.09
Needs assessment	9	300,777	2.08
Nonprint instructional materials	18	291,503	2.01
Competency tests	5	267,307	1.84
Evaluation	15	261,857	1.81
Inservice education	16	254,782	1.76
Community involvement	10	250,100	1.73
Career and vocational counseling	15	245,087	1.69
Other	3	124,300	0.86
Field testing	6	123,130	0.85
Computer software	8	103,087	0.71
Placement services	9	65,242	0.45
Analysis	2	52,696	0.36
Workshops	5	43,720	0.30
Employment services	3	40,926	0.28
Unclassified	2	25,726	0.18
Consortium	1	10,000	0.07
Literature review	1	9,000	0.06
Feasibility study	1	2,660	0.02
TOTALS	518	$14,486,473	100.00

TABLE 8

PRIORITIES ADDRESSED BY PROJECTS

Areas of Emphasis	Number of Projects	Amount of Funding	Percentage of Funding
Curriculum	224	7,144,649	49.32
Dissemination of information and products	25	1,533,878	10.59
Evaluation	69	1,314,784	9.08
Administration of vocational education	42	1,293,131	8.93
Disadvantaged	25	558,320	3.85
Career development	12	435,969	3.01
Industry/education linkage	15	430,029	2.97
Accountability	4	362,306	2.50
Handicapped	18	350,110	2.42
Personnel development	21	305,613	2.11
Teacher education	10	207,472	1.43
Job placement	19	104,970	0.73
Community education	2	87,301	0.60
Planning and policy formation	3	79,867	0.55
Unclassified	3	50,726	0.35
Adult education	1	40,000	0.28
Basic skills	5	33,817	0.23
Student recruitment	3	33,669	0.23
Social and economic problems	2	31,000	0.21
Bilingual vocational education	2	27,491	0.19
Rural education	2	17,895	0.12
Other	5	15,000	0.10
Displaced homemakers	3	14,476	0.10
Sex equity	3	14,000	0.10
TOTALS	518	$14,486,473	100.00

- Collectively, the States are obligating 51 percent of their program improvement funding to curriculum development. Individual States, however, vary considerably in this respect; some do not fund any projects in certain categories.

- The amount obligated for each project varies considerably. There is a wide range in project size within and among States. The average funding per project is $27,966. The actual range is from $1,491 to $875,262.

- State program improvement projects are being conducted by educational agencies and institutions at every level. Only 7.1 percent of the State program improvement funds go to projects conducted by noneducational agencies. The largest share of the work is being conducted by 4-year colleges and universities (57 percent) and local educational agencies (21 percent).

- Teachers and coordinators are the primary users of 58 percent of the products and services yielded by the projects. An additional 18 percent of the projects were directed toward research and development personnel.

- State program improvement projects have focused on every educational level. More than 45 percent of the State program improvement obligations have been at the high school level and another 23.9 percent was directed toward the combined high school and postsecondary level.

- The greatest number of projects have focused directly on improvement of instruction (i.e., curriculum and instruction projects, 162; training programs and inservice education, 64; evaluation, assessment, and follow-up, 57).

Appendix A

FY 1985 State-administered Program Improvement Projects for Legislative Section 135

Appendix A contains 174 section 135 (vocational education personnel training) program improvement project descriptions voluntarily submitted by State departments of vocational education for entry into the RIVE database.

Twelve States reported projects for a total of $5,550,395. The average size of these projects was about $4,000 larger ($31,898 v. $27,966) than those funded under the research, exemplary and innovative, and curriculum development sections. No summary statements have been prepared or conclusions drawn because the submissions were voluntary, and there is no way of knowing whether they are representative of the total population.

TABLE A1

FY 1985 STATE-ADMINISTERED PROGRAM IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS
BY STATE

State or Territory	Number of Projects	Obligated Funds
Alabama	0	0
Alaska	0	0
Arizona	0	0
Arkansas	0	0
California	0	0
Colorado	0	0
Connecticut	6	178,080
Delaware	0	0
District of Columbia	0	0
Florida	0	0
Georgia	0	0
Guam	0	0
Hawaii	0	0
Idaho	0	0
Illinois	0	0
Indiana	0	0
Iowa	0	0
Kansas	4	84,493
Kentucky	83	481,631
Louisiana	0	0
Maine	0	0
Maryland	23	231,225
Massachusetts	3	0
Michigan	3	287,620
Minnesota	0	0
Mississippi	0	0
Missouri	0	0
Montana	0	0
Nebraska	0	0
Nevada	0	0
New Hampshire	0	0
New Jersey	0	0
New Mexico	6	229,999
New York	0	0
North Carolina	0	0

TABLE A1--Continued

State or Territory	Number of Projects	Obligated Funds
North Dakota	2	75,824
Ohio	0	0
Oklahoma	0	0
Oregon	9	644,866
Pennsylvania	29	2,762,082
Puerto Rico	0	0
Rhode Island	0	0
South Carolina	0	0
South Dakota	0	0
Tennessee	0	0
Texas	0	0
Utah	0	0
Vermont	0	0
Virginia	2	367,825
Washington	0	0
West Virginia	0	0
Wisconsin	4	94,850
Wyoming	0	0
TOTALS	174	$5,550,395

TABLE A2

RECIPIENTS OF PROJECT FUNDING

Institution or Agency	Number of Projects	Funding of Projects	Percentage of Funding
College and university	177	4,279,751	77.11
Local education agency	28	649,942	11.71
State agency	12	283,660	5.11
Community college, junior college, or technical institute	8	135,460	2.44
Business, industry, or labor	3	103,900	1.87
Intermediate agency	5	82,682	1.49
Individual	1	15,000	0.27
TOTALS	174	$5,550,395	100.00

TABLE A3

PRIMARY USERS

Institution or Agency	Number of Projects	Funding of Projects	Percentage of Funding
Teacher/coordinator	124	4,517,889	81.40
Teacher educator	23	572,575	10.31
Administrator (local)	4	323,366	5.82
Student	10	71,426	1.29
Guidance personnel	7	38,089	0.69
Administrator/supervisor/ planner (State)	3	16,600	0.30
Business, industry, or labor	2	9,350	0.17
Other	1	1,100	0.02
TOTALS	174	$5,550,395	100.00

TABLE A4

INSTRUCTIONAL LEVEL

Institution or Agency	Number of Projects	Amount of Funding	Percentage of Funding
High school and postsecondary	13	2,751,958	49.58
College or university	107	1,738,765	31.33
High school (10-12)	34	735,211	13.25
Secondary school (7-12)	10	229,651	4.14
Community/junior college or technical institute	5	78,510	1.41
Other	5	16,300	0.29
TOTALS	174	$5,550,395	100.00

TABLE A5

PRODUCTS OR OUTCOMES OF PROJECTS

Product or Outcome	Number of Projects	Amount of Funding	Percentage of Funding
Inservice education	130	4,730,996	85.24
Research	1	292,766	5.27
Training programs	12	165,838	2.99
Competency tests	6	95,728	1.72
Printed instructional materials	4	84,751	1.53
Community involvement	2	64,900	1.17
Workshops	6	24,250	0.44
Model (exemplary)	1	24,000	0.43
Evaluation	1	20,000	0.36
Program implementation	1	20,000	0.36
Nonprint instructional materials	1	15,000	0.27
Other	4	4,990	0.09
Curriculum guide	1	2,276	0.04
Information systems	2	2,200	0.04
Follow-up	1	1,600	0.03
Articulation	1	1,100	0.02
TOTALS	174	$5,550,395	100.00

TABLE A6

PRIORITIES ADDRESSED BY PROJECTS

Areas of Emphasis	Number of Projects	Amount of Funding	Percentage of Funding
Personnel development	97	3,943,469	71.05
Teacher education	30	853,877	15.38
Disadvantaged	15	362,677	6.54
Handicapped	11	195,924	3.53
Curriculum	8	85,608	1.54
Student recruitment	2	64,900	1.17
Evaluation	2	26,000	0.47
Industry/education linkage	1	5,000	0.09
Administration of vocational education	4	4,090	0.07
Sex equity	1	3,350	0.06
Community education	1	3,300	0.06
Dissemination of information or products	2	2,200	0.04
TOTALS	174	$5,550,395	100.00

Appendix B

RIVE Program Improvement Database Project Profile

THE NATIONAL CENTER FOR RESEARCH IN VOCATIONAL EDUCATION

RIVE

PROJECT PROFILE

NATIONAL CENTER CLEARINGHOUSE
Program Improvement Database

THE NEED
In today's information intensive environment, educators need a simple way to keep track of federally and state-administered projects in vocational education. By having knowledge of the projects that have been completed or are now being conducted, vocational educators can avoid needless duplication of effort and can quickly identify activities of interest around the nation.

THE PROJECT
The Program Improvement Database, produced by the National Center Clearinghouse, goes by the search label of RIVE, which stands for Resources in Vocational Education. The database contains descriptions of vocational education projects in two categories. The first category includes ongoing and recently completed research and development projects, exemplary and innovative projects, and curriculum development projects administered through state research coordinating units. The second category includes federally administered projects related to career education, vocational education, and education and work. The National Center Clearinghouse acquires project proposals or summaries from states and selected federal agencies for input into the database.

The database uses ERIC descriptors for on-line subject searching and includes names of project directors, organizations performing the work, funding information, and availability of reports and products resulting from completed projects.

AUDIENCE
Intended for all vocational educators, the database is particularly useful to federal educational agencies in assessing the nature of vocational education program improvement, reporting accomplishments to policymakers, and "tracking" projects to their resulting reports and products. State educational agencies can use the database to set program improvement priorities, avoid duplication of activities, and obtain information about ongoing projects. Those involved in program improvement activities can use the database to avoid duplication, build on current efforts, and develop collegial relations with other researchers.

ACCESS
The Program Improvement Database (RIVE) is publicly available on-line with BRS Information Technologies, 1200 Route 7, Latham, New York 12110, (800) 345-4277.

SPONSORSHIP
This activity is sponsored by the Office of Vocational and Adult Education, U.S. Department of Education.

For specific information about the database, contact Judith Wagner, Information Specialist, the National Center for Research in Vocational Education, The Ohio State University, 1960 Kenny Road, Columbus, Ohio 43210-1090, (800) 848-4815 or (614) 486-3655. ADVOCNET ID: AVO0003.

5/85

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT
THE NATIONAL CENTER PROGRAM INFORMATION OFFICE
TEL: (614) 486-3655 OR (800) 848-4815
CABLE: CTVOCEDOSU/COLUMBUS,OHIO

THE NATIONAL CENTER
FOR RESEARCH IN VOCATIONAL EDUCATION
THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY
1960 KENNY ROAD · COLUMBUS, OHIO 43210

Appendix C

FY 1985 State-administered Program Improvement Projects by State and Legislative Section

TABLE C1

FY 1985 STATE-ADMINISTERED PROGRAM IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS

	Sec. 131 (Research)		Sec. 132 (Exemplary)		Sec. 133 (Curriculum)		TOTALS	
	No. of Projects	Obligated Funds	No. of Projects	Obligated Funds	No. of Projects	Obligated Funds	No. of Projects	Obligated Funds
Alabama	0	--	1	1,950	5	28,110	6	30,060
Alaska	0	--	0	--	1	23,523	1	23,523
Arizona	0	--	0	--	0	--	0	--
Arkansas	5	125,949	1	22,518	0	--	6	148,467
California	4	338,818	0	--	3	77,182	7	416,000
Colorado	2	28,733	2	21,176	1	15,000	5	64,909
Connecticut	2	34,884	5	94,169	5	47,769	12	176,822
Delaware	1	5,500	0	--	1	10,628	2	16,128
District of Columbia	0	--	0	--	0	--	0	--
Florida	12	353,539	3	65,990	37	594,549	52	1,014,078
Georgia	4	122,269	13	253,840	7	129,554	24	505,663
Guam	0	--	0	--	0	--	0	--
Hawaii	4	20,810	0	--	4	23,679	8	44,489
Idaho	0	--	0	--	0	--	0	--
Illinois	26	999,265	1	280,000	5	232,009	32	1,511,274
Indiana	0	--	1	30,000	2	20,713	3	50,713
Iowa	0	--	0	--	1	75,000	1	75,000
Kansas	1	4,100	6	146,327	1	52,821	8	203,248
Kentucky	1	11,400	45	634,085	19	230,126	65	875,611
Louisiana	0	--	0	--	10	165,746	10	165,746
Maine	0	--	0	--	0	--	0	--
Maryland	0	--	0	--	0	--	0	--
Massachusetts	0	--	7	475,791	18	382,436	25	858,227
Michigan	1	1,491	0	--	2	859,612	3	861,103
Minnesota	3	221,756	0	--	0	--	3	221,756

TABLE C1--Continued

	Sec. 131 (Research)		Sec. 132 (Exemplary)		Sec. 133 (Curriculum)		TOTALS	
	No. of Projects	Obligated Funds	No. of Projects	Obligated Funds	No. of Projects	Obligated Funds	No. of Projects	Obligated Funds
Mississippi	0	--	0	--	0	--	0	--
Missouri	12	57,338	0	--	7	414,588	19	471,926
Montana	3	13,611	0	--	9	72,882	12	86,493
Nebraska	0	--	0	--	1	25,000	1	25,000
Nevada	0	--	0	--	0	--	0	--
New Hampshire	0	--	0	--	0	--	0	--
New Jersey	0	--	0	--	0	--	0	--
New Mexico	2	153,294	1	36,864	1	45,000	4	235,158
New York	3	103,991	0	--	1	875,262	4	979,253
North Carolina	3	38,413	0	--	0	--	3	38,413
North Dakota	0	--	3	5,888	2	61,648	5	67,536
Ohio	7	203,564	0	--	0	--	7	203,564
Oklahoma	1	149,000	0	--	5	117,500	6	266,500
Oregon	12	96,443	1	30,000	6	39,999	19	166,442
Pennsylvania	10	60,671	13	45,888	22	351,953	45	458,512
Puerto Rico	0	--	0	--	0	--	0	--
Rhode Island	1	2,000	0	--	0	--	1	2,000
South Carolina	0	--	0	--	13	25,950	13	25,950
South Dakota	0	--	0	--	0	--	0	--
Tennessee	0	--	14	495,956	0	--	14	495,956
Texas	14	463,235	4	149,917	15	1,997,161	33	2,610,313
Utah	0	--	0	--	0	--	0	--
Vermont	0	--	0	--	0	--	0	--
Virginia	8	407,910	0	--	2	295,700	10	703,610
Washington	13	84,966	0	--	21	79,853	34	164,819
West Virginia	0	--	2	16,060	3	10,127	5	26,187
Wisconsin	6	113,224	1	49,800	1	25,000	8	188,024
Wyoming	0	--	0	--	2	8,000	2	8,000
TOTALS	161	4,216,174	124	2,856,219	233	7,414,080	518	14,486,473

RELATED DOCUMENTS

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